

Weekly Column for September 14, 2006

When I arrived at work this morning and grabbed the morning paper, I was delighted by a column I read in the Times Union. For those of you that have not had the chance to read it, take a look, it is on the inside cover of the region section.

The details of the column center around some exciting new openings in the downtown area that you will see occur in the coming weeks. The details of my column aim to do the same over the next few weeks.

This week I would like to talk about three exciting new restaurants opening within three blocks of one another. Two of them will open during the fall, while the other is scheduled to appear before the planning board later this month.

Tosca Grille, located on Broadway, just up the street from City Hall, is the next project for well-known Chef Larry Schepici. In a recent discussion with the Rensselaer County Regional Chamber of Commerce, Schepici said something that made me smile from ear to ear. When asked about the new restaurant, which appears as if it will be visually stunning on the inside, Schepici said, "This is not just another restaurant, it's a reason to come to Troy."

That is what we are aiming for. Giving people different reasons to come to Troy. Just a stones throw from the Tosca Grille, the former Monument Square Café will reopen as the Golden Fox Restaurant. Details to follow on this exciting project in the coming weeks, but that is an excellent spot for an eatery and we are pleased that the establishment will once again open soon.

And before we leave the restaurants, a new Thai and Sushi establishment is asking for Planning Board approval later this month to open up at 81 Fourth Street. Exciting news all around.

And that does not even scratch the surface of the development occurring downtown. Next week we are going to take a look at the plethora of businesses and art galleries opening up, and what it means to the City as a whole.

It's been a cool week here in Troy, but all signs point to a beautiful, early summer-like weekend. So get out there and enjoy because the leaves will change color soon, and we know what follows that.

Thanks for taking the time to read the column, and have a great weekend.

Harry J Tutunjian
Mayor of Troy

